# A LETTER

Written from

## HIS EXCELLENCY ROBERT Earle of ESSEX

Vnto the Speaker of the House of Commons.

Relating the true state of the late Skirmish at *Chinner*, between a party of the Kings, and Parliaments Forces, on Sabbath day the 19th of June, 1643.

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*Ordered by the Commons in Parliament, that this Letter bee forthwith printed and published.*

Hen. Elsynge Cler. Parl. D. Com.

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*LONDON*,
Printed by *Richard Bishop* for *Lawrence Blaiklock* at the Sugar leafe neare Temple Barre, 1643.

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# A Letter sent from his Excellency *Robert* Earle of *Essex*, directed to the Speaker of the *House of Commons*.

*SIR*

THere being some of my Horse that had an Encounter with the Enemy yesterday being Sunday, I thought fit to give the House an Accompt of the particulars of it, knowing how apt many are to mis-report things to our disadvantage.

About two of the clock on Sunday morning the Enemy with about 1200. Horse and a great body of Dragoons fell into a Town called *Farcham*, where one Troop of Horse (being Colonell *Morleyes*) was quartered, of which they took

the greateſt part, and from thence went not farre to another Village called *Chinner*, where they beat up ſome of the new *Bedfordſhire* Dragoons and took ſome of them Priſoners, and three of their Colours; and ſome of the Officers behaving themſelves very well, and defending the houſes, wherein they were; they ſet fire on the Town; theſe being out Quarters, the Alarum came where Major *Gunter* lay with three Troops (*viz.*) his own, Captain *Sheffields*, and Captain *Croſſes*, whom he preſently drew out and marched towards the Enemy; Colonell *Hampden* being abroad with Sir *Samuel Luke* and onely one man, and ſeeing Major *Gunters* Forces, they did go along with them, Colonel *Dulbeir* the Quarter-maſter Generall did likewiſe come to them: with theſe they drew neare the Enemy, and finding them marching away, kept ſtill upon the Reare for almoſt five miles. In this time there joined with them Captaine *Sanders* Troop and Captain *Buller*, with fiftie commanded men, which were ſent to *Chinner* by Sir *Philip Stapleton*, who had the watch here that night at *Thame*: when he diſcovered the fire there, to know the occaſion of it he likewiſe ſent one Troop of Dragoons under the command of

Captain

Captain *Dandasse* who came up to them. There were likewise some few of Colonell *Meivs* Dragoons that came to them: at length our men pressed them so neare, that being in a large pasture Ground they drew up, and notwithstanding the inequality of the numbers, we having not above 300 Horse, our men charged them very gallantly, and slew divers of them; but while they were in fight, the Enemy being so very strong, kept a body of horse for his reserve, and with that Body wheel'd about and charg'd our men in the Reare, so that being encompassed and overborne with multitude, they broke and fled, though it was not very farre; For when I heard that our men Marched in the Rear of the Enemy, I sent to Sir *Philip Stapleton*, who presently Marched toward them with his Regiment; and though he came somewhat short of the Skirmish, yet seeing our Men Retreat in that disorder, he stopt them, caused them to draw into a Bodie with him, where they stood about an hour: Whereupon the Enemy marched away. In this Skirmish there were slain fortie and five on both sides, whereof the greater part were theirs.

They carried off the Bodies of divers persons of qualitie. On our side Maior *Gunter* was killed, but some say he is prisoner and so hurt; a man of much courage and fidelitie, his bravery engaging him and his small Partie too farre: Colonell *Handen* put himself in Captain *Crosse* his Troop, where he charged with much courage, and was unfortunately shott thorow the Shoulder. Sir *Samuel Luke* thrice taken prisoner, and fortunately rescued: Captain *Crosse* had his Horse killed under him in the middest of the Enemy, and was mounted by one of his owne men, who quitted his own Horse to save his Captain. Captain *Butler* was shot in the Neck, who shewed very much resolution in this fight, taking one prisoner after he was shot. Mounseir *Dalbier* with Captain *Bosa* and Captain *Ennis* did likewise carry themselves very well. We likewise lost two Colours, viz. Maior *Gunters*, and Captaine *Sheffeilds*; no Prisoners of qualitie were taken by the Enemy, but Captain *Sheffeilds* Brother. Prince *Rupert* was there in person, and the Runagado *Hurry*. We took prisoner one of the Earl of *Berks* sons, Captain *Gardener*, the late

Recorders

Recorders sonne of *London*, and Captaine *Smith*, with some others of qualitie, and divers prisoners.

Sir, this is the true Relation of what passed in this businesse. I rest,

*Your assured Friend,*

*Thame 19.*
*June*, 1643.

*Essex.*

FINIS.